

World and Nation

Military uses lasers to transmit messages

Communications test successful

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department, in an experiment with significant implications for war-fighting strategy, has successfully transmitted messages via laser light from a high-flying airplane to a submarine cruising at "operational depths."

The experiment, confirmed by Rear Adm. Thomas K. Mattingly and other Navy officials, was conducted more than a year ago off the coast of San Clemente, Calif., under the code name "SLCAIR 84," pronounced Slickair.

A small jet carrying an experimental green-light laser was able to establish contact and transmit messages "error free" to a submerged submarine.

Although precise details are classified, the airplane was flying at altitudes between 20,000 feet and

30,000 feet at the time of the transmissions, one source said. Another source said the term "operational depth" meant the submarine was more than 100 feet below the surface.

The successful test has paved the way for additional research and convinced some officials a more advanced laser system can be constructed using satellites instead of airplanes. Over the next two years, the Navy will take control of the research from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, or DARPA.

Although Navy officials caution the service is still years away from building any operational system, the experiment offers one promising avenue for attacking a problem that has long dogged nuclear planners — how to communicate reliably with ballistic missile submarines without requiring the sub to rise near the

surface and risk disclosing its position.

Moreover, a laser communications system is viewed as having tremendous implications for tactical warfare because it could allow surface ships to protect the whereabouts of U.S. attack submarines, while still directing them toward enemy submarines.

The existence of the DARPA research program involving so-called blue-green lasers has long been public knowledge.

The research has been cited in the past by such concerned lawmakers as Rep. Les Aspin, D-Wis., and Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., who see it as offering an alternative to the ELF (extreme low frequency) submarine communications system now being built in Wisconsin and upper Michigan.

Recently, however, Mattingly provided the first public acknowledgment

of the research had moved to the point of a successful transmission of data. A former astronaut who now directs space programs within the Space and Naval Warfare Command, Mattingly referred briefly to the test in an article he wrote for "Proceedings" magazine, published by the U.S. Naval Institute.

In an interview, Mattingly stressed the Navy and DARPA were still engaged in basic research "and not development of an operational system."

Another Navy official, who spoke on condition he not be identified, said earlier experiments had established it was possible for a submerged submarine to be reached by laser light.

"But what we did here was actually transmit messages," the source continued. "We started at a certain depth and everything we sent was received error-free."

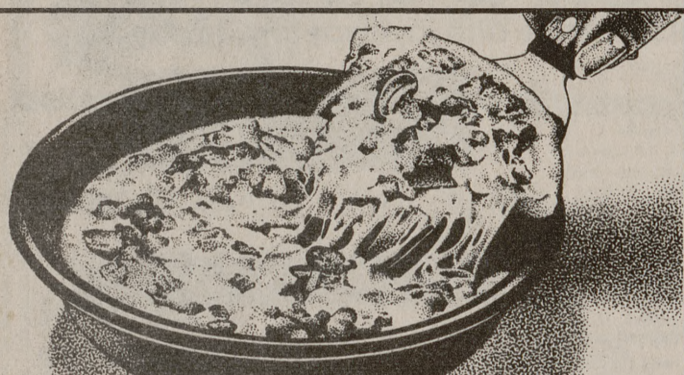


NORTHGATE LUNCH SPECIAL

Personal Pan Pizza and A 16 oz. Soft Drink*

\$1.99 (Northgate Only)

*Single topping only. No coupon necessary.



501 University at Northgate

100's of new Arrivals!

for:

- Dorm Formals
- Pledge Presentations
- Weddings
- Christmas
- Cocktail Parties

cocktail length • tea length • long accessories • gifts • separates

Formals

from \$49

everyday

Ladies & Lords

The After 5 & Social Occasion

Clothing store for Ladies & Men

Dresses • Accessories • Tuxedos

900 Harvey Rd.

764-8289

Post Oak Village

Open until 7 p.m. M-F

College Station, TX

10-6 Sat

American Express • Mastercard • Visa • Layaway

GIFT CERTIFICATE

Philadelphia commissioner to resign from police post

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The city's police commissioner announced his resignation Wednesday, exactly six months after directing his department's disastrous attempt to evict members of the radical MOVE cult from their fortified row house.

Commissioner Gregore J. Sambor, 57, told more than 200 officers at a meeting that he had sent a letter to Mayor W. Wilson Goode saying he would relinquish his duties Nov. 30. He made no reference to the MOVE confrontation.

"There will be many who will second-guess this decision, and many who will deny that it is mine, but the simple truth of the matter is that it is mine," Sambor told the officers, who gave him a standing ovation when he arrived at the Police Academy.

Sambor, who said two months ago he had no intention of quitting, was contradicted by Goode in testimony before a special commission investigating the May 13 MOVE tragedy,

in which 11 members of the cult were killed and 61 houses were destroyed by a fire started by a police bomb, dropped to break up a rooftop bunker.

Goode testified that he had been misled and disobeyed by his subordinates. The mayor's representative on the scene, then Managing Director Leo Brooks, resigned this summer, citing personal reasons.

Sambor's 23 months as commissioner were tainted by two widely criticized police operations.

In "Operation Cold Turkey," police detained and searched about 1,000 people on street corners noted for drug dealing. The practice was stopped when the American Civil Liberties Union sued in federal court, claiming the searches were unconstitutional.

When a police officer was killed in May, police rounded up numerous residents of a Hispanic community for questioning. A federal judge ordered police to stop the "repeated,

persistent pattern of unconstitutional stops, detentions, seizures and frisks."

Sambor had 37 years of service in the department and will receive a pension of \$51,000, about \$10,000 more than if he had been fired.

Sambor will retire from the 7,000-member force Jan. 29, according to Goode, who said he would appoint Deputy Commissioner Robert Armstrong as interim commissioner.

"It was a sad occasion," Armstrong, 55, said after the morning meeting. "Anybody who has devoted 35 years of his life to the police department and 35 years of his life to a career, it's really tough to go."

Other city officials said the MOVE siege and fire were the reasons for Sambor's retirement.

"He was certainly marked for destruction since the beginning of the incident," said Republican city Councilman Thatcher Longstreth. "I don't think I could have thought of anything more inevitable."

Mexico City rents rise since quake

Associated Press

DALLAS — Rents in some parts of Mexico City have doubled in the wake of a pair of devastating earthquakes that aggravated the sprawling metropolis' housing shortage, urban planners, real estate agents and tenants told the Dallas Morning News.

Thousands of homeless from the September quakes have battled for scarce housing made even more expensive by the declining value of the peso and accompanying inflation, the News said Wednesday.

"In many cases, rents for housing have at least doubled," said Martha Schteingart, an urban planner with El Colegio de Mexico, a Mexico City-based think tank.

The Sept. 19 and 20 quakes destroyed or damaged an estimated 3,300 structures and caused approximately \$4 billion in damage in the Mexican capital.

Officials said about 20,000 housing units, most rental property, were destroyed and hundreds of office buildings collapsed or were irreparably damaged.

"The effect this loss has had on the rental market is great," Schteingart said. "Housing was expensive before, and this has made it worse."

In addition, the annual inflation rate was expected to be 60 percent to 65 percent, substantially above the government's target of 35 percent, officials said.

And the peso, which was trading at about 380 to the dollar just after the earthquake, went as high as 500 to the dollar last week.

President Miguel de la Madrid said after the quakes that the government would strictly enforce existing laws on rent increases to protect tenants' rights.

But the Federal Consumer Protection Agency has received scores

of complaints daily that landlords are trying to raise rents beyond legal limits.

Raul Cervantes, an agency spokesman, said Mexican law prohibits rental charges in U.S. dollars and annual housing rent increases over 85 percent of the yearly increase in the minimum wage.

But daily advertisements in Mexico City newspapers quote dollar prices for rents. And residents pay higher and higher percentages of their salaries for rents.

Doris Bulnes, a real estate agent, said she has been inundated with requests for houses to rent since the quakes.

"There is definitely a lack of housing," she said. "Most of the people looking are people whose homes were damaged or want to live in a safer part of the city. There are fewer houses for rent now than I've ever seen."

Parents liable for minors offspring in Wisconsin

Associated Press

MADISON, WIS.— Wisconsin has adopted a pioneering law that holds parents financially responsible if their minor children have babies.

Under the measure, signed Tuesday by Gov. Anthony Earl, a welfare agency could take the parents of both the mother and father to court to make them pay for the expenses of raising the child.

The law also allocates \$1 million for pregnancy counseling, requires a girl's consent before a hospital or clinic can notify her parents of her abortion, and repeals restrictions on the advertising and sale of contraceptives.

State Rep. Marlin Schneider, said the law was intended to reduce teen-age pregnancies by increasing discussion between parents and teen-agers regarding sex.

By making parents financially responsible, they may at least talk about the subject before there is an unwanted pregnancy, he said.

The legislator predicted the law could help promote understanding on abortion, but Barbara Lyons, an anti-abortion lobbyist for Wisconsin Citizens Concerned for Life, said it would only encourage teen-agers to have abortions.

"Essentially, abortion is the easiest option in the short term," she said. "If the situation is going to be complicated by the boy's parents going to court to decide what the support payments should be, the girls won't tell their parents."

Critics also questioned whether the law was workable.

"How are you going to make the mother's parents responsible?" asked June Perry, executive director of New Concepts, a human service agency in Milwaukee. Earl said the new law seeks to underscore that "all of us, parents and young people, have a responsibility for our acts."



Football Forecast

AGs Sty-Mie Hogs

Sure Bets of The Week

Crown Royal

\$13.99 750 ml 80° Canadian Whiskey

Ron Maarten Rum

\$8.99 1.75 ltr. 80°

Schnapps - over 30 Flavors

817 S. Texas 696-0012



By Red Lobster Across from Maingate

IT'S A SHOOT OUT!!

MSC Camera Committee

presents

GARY FAYE

of Houston

directing

A Studio Seminar

Nov. 14 6-9:30 p.m.

Nov. 15 5:30-9:00 p.m.

Cost: \$25 (including studio card)

MSC Basement

Camera Darkroom